

**The developmental process.**

A **Schema** was what Piaget said was a “basic building block of intelligence”. They allow us to organise our knowledge and to have an association between objects and actions. When a schema is reached there is said to be a mental equilibrium.

When an old schema is being applied to a new object it is called **assimilation.**

The old schema may work poorly on the new schema so therefore it must be adapted to the new object. This is called **accommodation**. The baby accommodates this old schema to a new object.

Assimilation and accommodation both make up **adaptation**. Adaptation also means learning as we must adapt to grow.

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3-A9SgbAK5I> (on all topics)

Piaget believed that there had to be a certain correlation between accommodation and assimilation as they represent the body and the mind. When this optimum state is reached it is called **equilibrium**.

[http://www.simplypsychology.org/piaget.html#schema](http://www.simplypsychology.org/piaget.html%23schema)

<http://webspace.ship.edu/cgboer/genpsypiaget.html>